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**PATRICK-MURRAY ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES NEW
WORKPLACE SAFETY GRANTS FOR MASS.**

BRIGHTON—August 16, 2007—Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Suzanne M. Bump today announced 43 statewide Occupational Safety and Health grant awards for FY08 totaling \$800,000.

Joined by Director of Labor George Noel, Boston Carpenters Institute Training Director Benjamin Tilton as well as area legislators and labor leaders, Bump noted that any company that pays worker's compensation is eligible to receive Department of Industrial Accident grant funds of up to \$25,000 per year to develop and implement workplace safety training for employees. The Occupational Safety and Health grants are administered by the Department of Industrial Accidents.

"Most workplace injuries and illnesses are often preventable," said Bump. "These grants provide employers and workers with good defense against injuries and illnesses through health and safety training that can make a difference as to whether someone is injured on the job—or not."

Training can encompass a wide range of areas that will improve the safety of a workplace, including ergonomics, handling of hazardous materials, or proper heavy lifting techniques.

"This is an opportunity for New England Regional Carpenters to highlight their safety and training belief that every Massachusetts construction worker should return home safe at the end of the day," said Tilton.

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Grant recipients recognized include:

- **Boston Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund, Brighton** \$24,978 to train 865 new apprentices and journey men and women in OSHA regulations.
- **Mass Pile Drivers Joint Apprenticeship Training, Boston** \$15,087 to train 240 new apprentices and journey men and women in OSHA regulations, CPR/First Aid, disaster response, fire/electrical safety and injury prevention.
- **The Construction Institute, Boston** \$7,955 to train 80 new apprentices and journey men and women in OSHA regulations, hazard communications, falls, scaffolds, cranes and rigging excavation and trenches, confined spaces, fire/electrical safety and injury prevention.
- **Northeastern MA Carpenters, Wilmington.** \$24,991 to train 525 new apprentices and journey men and women in OSHA regulations
- **Southeastern MA Carpenters, Randolph.** \$24,954 to train 705 new apprentices and journey men and women in OSHA regulations.

Bump also recognized the Boston Plasters and Cement Masons for a \$18,694 safety grant they received in FY07, which helped train 190 new apprentices in OSHA regulations.

“DIA safety grants have trained 376,000 Massachusetts workers since 1991,” said DIA Commissioner Paul Buckley. “With this critical funding, there are employees on the job today who are working more efficiently, productively and safely.”

Grant applications for the FY09 funding round will be available to employers and labor organizations starting in October. Additional application information will be available through the DIA website, www.mass.gov/dia and through the state’s Operational Services Division, www.mass.gov/osd.

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